

War Industry Cast-Offs Add To Job Puzzle

Report Shows 117,824 Persons Dismissed in State Since the Armistice Began

Added to 50,000 Soldiers

Return of Troops in Growing Volume Threatens to Increase the Congestion

Figures compiled by the United States Employment Service, which were made public yesterday, show that since the armistice was signed 117,824 persons engaged in war industries in the state have been thrown out of employment because of cancellation of war contracts. Two hundred and eleven firms out of 925, which were doing work for the government, found it necessary to dismiss all or part of their employees.

The dismissed employees, according to officials of the service, were engaged in all kinds of manufacture, ranging from dried apples to submarine chasers. Many dismissals were made in industrial centers upstate, but most of them were in and around New York City. Some of the firms which reported dismissals and the numbers dismissed were: Tip Top Waist and Dress Company, uniforms, 6,700; West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, 200; Woolen and Optical Company, 250; Kavanagh Knitting Company, 400; Russell Motor Car Company, 500 women and 100 men; Taylor Instrument Company, 400; H. Somers, uniforms, 2,000; and Levy & Rosenthal, uniforms, 400.

Jersey Men Not Included

The figures do not include the dismissal of employees of shipbuilding and ammunition plants in New Jersey towns near New York, although the numbers of unemployed from these places are reported to have come here looking for work.

Dr. George W. Kitchey, director of the service, said undoubtedly many of those dismissed have found work elsewhere, but he cited the figures as showing how the civilian unemployed are helping to complicate the problem of unemployment brought about by the returning soldiers. It was estimated yesterday that about 50,000 soldiers are looking for work and that this number, added to the total of almost 200,000 men and women in the city who are seeking jobs.

Dr. Kitchey said his department was exerting every possible effort, through its fourteen employment district headquarters throughout the state, to induce manufacturers and business men to employ and to a way from New York City as many idle men as are required to run the industries to full capacity. Dr. Kitchey said the return of soldiers in even greater numbers during the next few months would make a more serious congestion of the unemployed in this city unless drastic measures are taken to avert it.

Salvation Army Aids Many

Hundreds of soldiers have been provided with civilian clothing and with transportation to their homes by the Salvation Army, it became known yesterday. Adjutant George Darby, who is in charge of the Salvation Army employment agency, described the congestion of many of the former soldiers as "impecunious."

Wm. Hutcheson Predicts Plenty of Work; Scouts 'Unemployment Bugaboo'

With the prices of building material tending to become lower, William Hutcheson, international president of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, looks for a revival of building operations in the early spring and work for everybody. "There is one thing to be said about this unemployment bugaboo. I grant you that there is much unemployment—there usually is—but the fact is that a certain type of employer is seeking to exaggerate the extent of this unemployment, fearing that by doing so he will be able to get him at lower prices than would otherwise be possible."

Navy Retains Men to Avoid Unemployment

PARIS, Jan. 27.—American naval authorities here are doing everything possible to avoid adding to the number of unemployed in the United States by retaining in the service every able-bodied sailor who can be induced to re-enlist. Instructions have been given to discharge no man who does not desire to leave and who has no prospect of employment.

WHAT IS YOUR DUTY?

4,000,000 Women and Children in Armenia, Syria and the Near East Are Starving

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND for \$30,000,000

New York City Campaign Is Now On

SOME ONE WILL CALL UPON YOU

For the New York City Committee:

Cleveland H. Dodge, William Jay Schieffelin, Arthur Curtis James, Henry Morgenthau, William Sloan, John R. Mott, Alexander J. Hemphill, James M. Speers, George A. Plimpton, William B. Miller, Abram I. Elkus, Oscar S. Straus, William Howard Taft, James W. Gerard, Talbot Williams, Charles Evans Hughes, James Cardinal Gibbons, Stephen S. Wise.

Butler Says U. S. Labor Will Reject Bolshevism

Educator Declares Workers Will Refuse to Accept Doctrines of "Reds"

The new menace of liberty, Bolshevism, will not duped our industrial classes into its adoption, according to Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, who spoke yesterday on "Bolshevism and Its Effect on Industry" at a luncheon of the United Waist League at the Hotel McAlpin.

"We need have no fear of our industrial groups meeting this enemy just as they met the old autocracy of the individual," he said. "They will face it with outspokenness and unity and without much delay. For industry knows that it can have no relation to Bolshevism, whose main occupation is talk. Sympathy for Bolshevism is confined in this country to the L. W. W. and a few parlor, editorial and academic 'Bolsheviks,' who without in the least comprehending the significance of what they are saying or writing, add the safety of their own skins to the safety of the nation's peace, peace, profess sympathy for the technique and aims of that under-creative outbreak."

"The people of this country know that liberty does not mean an autocracy, conceived in violence and hatred, and which has no real notion of the conduct of industry and society. The man who works can expect no quarter from Bolshevism, which is a doctrine of might being right, and merely a substitution of group for individual autocracy."

Unemployment First Problem Of Elkus Board

Governor and Chairman of State Reconstruction Body in Conference

Governor Alfred E. Smith conferred yesterday with Abram I. Elkus, chairman of the new reconstruction commission. The commission will begin its work immediately and will be ready to report in about a month.

One of the first tasks of this new commission will be to present a plan to the legislature for the reconstruction of the state. The commission will be made up of representatives of the various industries, and will be charged with the task of determining the needs of the state and of presenting a plan for their satisfaction. The commission will also be charged with the task of determining the needs of the state and of presenting a plan for their satisfaction.

In discussing reconstruction Governor Smith said he expected to have the hearty cooperation of the legislature in building the proposed bridge between New York and New Jersey. It is expected that New York's share of the expense of this project will be about \$100,000.

It was also announced yesterday that the committee on unemployment and the committee on demobilization, of which Mr. William Good is chairman, will hold a joint meeting in the office of the commission in the Hall of Records to-morrow at 4 o'clock. The committee on demobilization will be in charge of the state system of military training, as directed by Governor Smith in his practical plan for the reconstruction of the state.

In explaining the proposed activity of the commission, Mr. Elkus made the following statement: "The commission, having been appointed in response to the spirit of the times, is fundamentally democratic in its intent, and our personnel represents many shades of opinions and many forms of education."

"For the convenience of its work the commission has been organized into eleven sub-committees: A committee on demobilization, of which Alfred E. Marling is chairman; a committee on unemployment, of which John G. Agaz is chairman; a committee on industrial problems, of which W. Everett Mox is chairman; and Charles P. Steinmetz is vice chairman; a committee on housing, of which John Alan Hamilton, of Buffalo, is chairman; a committee on demobilization, of which Mr. William Good is chairman; a committee on education, of which Dr. Felix Adler is chairman; a committee on food production and distribution and resettlement of land, of which Thomas V. Patterson, of Brooklyn, is chairman; a committee on inquiry into our emergency measures, of which William M. K. Olcott is chairman; a committee on public health, of which Dr. Henry Dwight Chapin is chairman; a committee on business readjustment, of which Alfred J. Johnson is chairman; and a committee on the drafting of legislation, of which Richard Newcombe is chairman."

"These committees will draw together immediately an advisory conference group composed of organizations and individuals who are interested in the subject with which the committee is to deal. These conference bodies will be asked to aid the formation of programs and plans."

"Various expert bodies have been making studies of problems of taxation and already have programmes to offer. These will be heard, weighed and considered by our committee, and when the committee has reached a conclusion as to the best plan of action it will submit its conclusions to the entire reconstruction committee."

"The committee on housing will call together committees and organizations that have been interested in housing for many years, and also call upon persons who are dealing with the housing problems of the Federal government during the war."

"It is apparent that the committees whose work is most pressing at the present time are the committees on demobilization and taxation and retraining, all of which have work in common. The committees on unemployment and industrial problems, having had brought to their immediate attention the threatened lay-off of many thousands of textile workers in the mills in the central portion of the state, which may add to the already serious unemployment problem, will hold a joint session of the two committees in Albany Thursday of the present week."

"The committee on food production and distribution will also consider the plan of the Department of the Interior for the resettlement of land. We shall have two conference groups—one with the food producing interests of the state and one with the distributing interests."

Radical Surgery on War Risk Bureau Is Prescribed by Columbia Expert

Removal of Inefficiency Essential if Public Support Is To Be Gained, Says Dr. Devine; Secretary of Treasury Blamed, but the Task Was Gigantic, He Adds

Alleged failure of the allotment and allowance system instituted by the government at the beginning of the war to care for dependents of men in the field is dealt with at length by Dr. Edward T. Devine, professor of social economy at Columbia University, in a supplement to the current issue of "The Survey."

"Every one agrees that the allotment and allowance section of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance has broken down. This is the statement with which Dr. Devine begins his exposition on the faulty workings of the system. In the pages that follow, he charges:

"The main official responsibility for the breakdown lies with the Secretary of the Treasury; 'Inefficiency and confusion in the administration of the allotments and allowances section were responsible in large part for the failure; 'Clerks in Bureau Overworked'

"Workers in the section were overworked, and without proper organization and poorly housed; 'About 15 per cent of the dependents of men in the service have suffered greatly because of the poor administration of the allotment system; 'Of the appeals made to the Red Cross Home Service by relatives of soldiers and sailors 60 per cent were referred to the allotment system; 'Not been received; 'Half of the trouble that Red Cross workers abroad were called upon to adjust for the men in the field was due to the fact that allotments had not been received; 'Behind the inefficiency of the allotments and allowances section lies, as a basic cause, the inefficiency of all our governmental, social and economic institutions; 'Dr. Devine asserts, in the beginning of his digest of the situation, that he aims at constructive as well as destructive criticism. The chief of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, he says, must continue for some time, although from now on it will be more and more concerned with compensation and insurance."

"Public Confidence Sought. 'To admit its failures and to make sure that any inefficiency which the pressure of the first year of the war has revealed will not be continued in the administration of the more permanent features of the war risk insurance will be the best way to insure support and public confidence,' he says."

"It is highly important that before this section of the bureau closes its doors for the year, a complete audit be done to clear up all misunderstandings and to do at least a tardy justice. Otherwise a brief and hectic experience in this field is likely to stand for years to come as a warning of administrative incapacity."

Dr. Devine then says: "The most fertile imagination could not have invented all the different kinds of mistakes that have been made. The most philosophical and long-suffering dependent family would have exhausted its stock of patience and forbearance because of some of the snarls had been encountered."

Red Cross Experience Cited. "Gratifying that the Red Cross workers in Europe found most prevalent among the men in the field were, according to Dr. Devine, delay in the mail, replacement of service records, and allotment of money."

"About half of the cases that were brought to the Red Cross by the men in the field were due to the fact that the allotment and allowance system was not getting to the loved ones at home," he says.

"Probably," he continues, "more than half of the applications to the Red Cross Home Service in America from the families of the soldiers and sailors have been made because of difficulties in the allotment and allowance system. An estimate of 60 per cent is made by one executive who is in a position to know about more than 20,000 applications, and there is no reason to believe that this is typical of the whole country."

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Textile Mills Workers Make Strike Threat

Operatives to Quit Work February 3 to Enforce 48-Hour Week Demand

A labor crisis of national scope involving industries engaged in manufacturing silk, cotton and woolen goods, is imminent unless employers in these trades grant an eight-hour day by February 3.

John Golden, president of the United Textile Workers of America, announced yesterday that if this concession is not made generally on February 3, employees in this industry throughout the country have planned to work no longer than eight hours on that date and each day thereafter. This information was conveyed by Mr. Golden to the reconstruction commission recently appointed by Governor Alfred E. Smith for the purpose of adjusting labor disputes that arise during the transition period.

The textile workers, who now work fifty-four hours a week, voted a demand for a forty-eight hour schedule at their convention in New York last November. Employers, Mr. Golden said, have not granted the shorter hours, nor have they made any efforts toward compromise. Wage demands are not involved in the controversy, although the workers ask the same pay for the shorter week. Employees were willing to work fifty-four hours a week as long as the factories were engaged only on government war contracts, Mr. Golden explained, but the industries have since adjusted their business to fill domestic contracts and the workers no longer are contented with the longer schedule.

It was announced that the Governor's commission will begin an investigation Thursday, and perhaps would go to other textile centers in the state. The effort to establish a country-wide eight-hour schedule is being aided by mass meetings and forums in affected localities, with addresses by officials of the American Federation of Labor, which has pledged its support to the movement.

Nation-Wide Strikes Planned. Mr. Golden, explaining reports of strikes in the textile towns of the Mohawk Valley, New York, said last night that these movements are part of a nation-wide effort to put the textile trade on an eight-hour basis by February 3.

"The United Textile Workers of America at its annual convention held in New York last November," he said, "voted to fix the standard day at eight hours and make it effective February 3. In carrying out that vote there will be strikes on that day in every mill center of the country where the eight hour day is not now the rule. It will hit the South, hitherto not organized, as well as other sections, as it will the highly organized mill towns of New England."

The order will affect approximately 1,000,000 workers. "I have just come back from a ten day tour of the textile towns of the South," Mr. Golden said. "We have organized in Columbus, Ga.; Augusta, Ga.; Graniteville, S. C.; and Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tennessee. With the exception of Knoxville, where we have a good union, all of this is practically virgin territory. There have been sporadic strike movements in the Southern textile mills before, but this is the first time it has been organized."

Wage Question Not Involved. "Tomorrow we carry the fight into New England," Frank Harrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor; J. J. Manning, of the United Garment Workers; Thomas F. Mahon, president of the United Textile Workers, and myself, with local workers, will address mass meetings of mill workers in Providence and Pawtucket. Wednesday we go into Fall River and New Bedford. Thursday we return to New York to take part in the conference Governor Alfred E. Smith has called to avoid any trouble in the mills upstate."

There is absolutely no question of wages involved in the mills most of the workers are on piece work. It is our contention, and this is borne out by experience, that they will do as much work and consequently earn as much in the eight hours as they now do in nine. On the nine-hour basis men and women are so well played out they do not get maximum production."

"Most of the textile mills of the country are in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana."

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Uniform Work Week Proposed

Up to now there has been a wide difference in the hours worked in various states. Most of the southern states have a forty-hour week. In most of the New England states the work week is fifty-four hours. New Hampshire alone having fifty-five. In that state it is likely the fifty-five hour week law will be amended at this session of the Legislature. Some classes of mill labor work but fifty hours now, this concession having been forced by the unions. Now we propose to have a uniform work week everywhere."

"In New England the Saturday half holiday is general. To avoid interference with this custom, the working day will really be eight hours and thirty minutes five days in the week."

"Reports from Boston indicate that an effort may be made to arbitrate the situation in that state. Will you arbitrate, Mr. Golden was asked. There is no plan to arbitrate. We will be very glad to meet and talk the matter over, though as a matter of fact the vote of the convention gives the officers of the union no choice but to make the order effective."

Not All on Full Time. Mr. Golden explained that in many of the New England mills the workers are not now employed on full time. The big mills of the American Woolen Company at Lawrence, Mass., said he "are now working but four days a week. The same is true of the big cotton plant of the Amoskeag Company at Manchester, N. H. It is not to be expected that where there is not even forty-eight hours' work to be had now, there will be much opposition to agreeing to that schedule."

At the same time, Mr. Golden said he was hopeful it would be adjusted without difficulty. "We shall be in Albany Thursday, as I expect to try and secure an agreement there," he said. "If it is not possible, after that we will probably continue our drive through the mill towns of northern New England."

Socialists, who have been active in the movement, are not to be expected to be effective in this case, he said. "The Canadian border will be affected."

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Attack Upon Mayor Hylan and His Employment Committee in the Course of Which Alderman Collins Interrupted Him, Asserting That the Committee Was Finding Jobs for 200 Men a Day. Hisses and Boos Greeted His Defense of the Mayor

Beckerman then continued his address, charging that the Mayor, when called upon by a committee, said that he was withholding all peddlers' licenses and intended to give these to "deserving soldiers."

Following the adoption of the resolution protesting against the appropriation of a fund for the welcome of returning soldiers, a man in uniform arose and asked permission to read another resolution. This began:

"Whereas, no plan has been made to secure permanent employment for men discharged from the army and navy."

Instantly Alderman Collins arose: "I resent the seditious utterance contained in that paragraph," he asserted. "Although I am not in uniform now, I held a commission in the United States Army and have only recently taken my uniform off. I resent it from the standpoint of Americanism, and if it is repeated I will demand the arrest of the guilty man."

In the confusion that followed a blue jacket, tramped down the aisle, climbed on the platform and with a club in one hand and the other resting on the gun at his hip, announced that the meeting was over. Some protest was made against this act, but the appearance of other members of the Armed Guard reinforced by Police Reserves, convinced the assemblage that what the sailor said was true.

Milk for France Fund Aided

Another of the Alsace-Lorraine super dances for the benefit of the Free Milk for France Fund was given last night at the Hotel Lorraine. These dances are limited to 300 and there was a full attendance. Among those who had guests at supper were Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., Mrs. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Mrs. Lyman B. Kendall, Mrs. John Wanamaker, Jr., Mrs. Newbold Le Roy Edgar, Mrs. Lytleton Fox, Mrs. Lydie Hoy, Mrs. James T. Terry, Mrs. Craig Biddle, Mrs. Charles de Loosy Oelrichs, Mrs. Warren McConihe, Mrs. William Duxson, Mrs. Gordon Douglas, Mrs. Stanhope Nixon, Mrs. Allen G. Wellman, Mrs. William Thaw, 3d, Mrs. Norrie Sellar, Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt and Mrs. Lounsbury Perry.

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